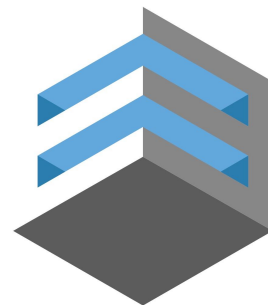


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Vocabulary Builder from...

Grace Smith-Viduarre and Tim Wright: Why can parrots talk? | TED Talk



Advanced Words Only

Session 1: Word List

- parrot** *n.* a tropical bird with a curved beak and the ability to mimic sounds, often kept as a pet and trained to copy the human voice
synonym: copyist, wannabe
(1) repeat like a **parrot**, (2) a talking **parrot**
She keeps a **parrot** in a birdcage as a pet.
- reunite** *v.* to bring two or more people together again after a period of separation
synonym: reconcile, reunify, reconvene
(1) **reunite** after five years, (2) **reunite** with my friend
The band will **reunite** only for this show.
- conspicuous** *adj.* visible or observable; likely to draw attention
synonym: apparent, noticeable, evident
(1) a **conspicuous** achievement, (2) **conspicuous** consumption
Her golden hair was **conspicuous** in China.
- uncanny** *adj.* strange or mysterious, often in a way that is unsettling
synonym: arcane, astonishing, eerie
(1) in an **uncanny** manner, (2) **uncanny** resemblance
She has an **uncanny** sense of who is telling a lie.
- fuse** *n.* a small part in an electrical device or machinery that can interrupt the flow of electrical current when it is overloaded; (verb) to become plastic or fluid or liquefied from heat

synonym : (verb) melt, (verb) blend

(1) **fuse** blows, (2) **fuse** with one another

He has a short **fuse**.

parakeet

n. any one of many small to medium-sized species of parrot, usually with a long tail

(1) extinct **parakeet**, (2) African **parakeet**

We had named our pet **parakeets**.

individualize

v. to make something personal or more personal to suit the needs of a particular person, place, etc.

synonym : personalize, differentiate

(1) **individualize** each patient, (2) **individualize** dosages

Our schools offer **individualized** education by excellent teachers.

mimicry

n. the act or skill of copying the sounds or behavior of a particular person or animal, often to make people laugh

synonym : imitation, apery

(1) vocal **mimicry**, (2) floral **mimicry**

Some insects use **mimicry** to avoid detection by predators.

nape

n. the back side of the neck

synonym : nucha, scruff, collar

(1) **nape** massager, (2) fine hair on the **nape**

She kissed the **nape** of his neck.

imitate

v. to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something

synonym : mimic, emulate, replicate

(1) **imitate** painting styles, (2) **imitate** animal sounds

He **imitated** the modus operandi of the famous phantom thief.

larynx

n. an organ in the top of the throat involved in breathing, producing sound

(1) irritate the **larynx**, (2) narrowing of the **larynx**
Smoking significantly increases the risk of **larynx** cancer.

windpipe

n. the tube in the body that carries inhaled air from the throat to the lungs

synonym: throat, larynx, trachea

(1) **windpipe** inflammation, (2) artificial **windpipe**

A foreign object lodged in the throat or **windpipe** causes choking.

vibrate

v. to move or cause anything to move fast and in small increments from side to side

synonym: oscillate, convulse, jerk

(1) **vibrate** at a regular frequency, (2) **vibrate** with anger

During the flight, the wings of the plane **vibrate**.

airflow

n. the flow of air, especially around a moving object such as an aircraft or vehicle

synonym: current, breeze, breath

(1) **airflow** duct, (2) high-speed **airflow**

They thoroughly tested the **airflow** around their latest formula car.

enunciate

v. to say, pronounce, or utter words clearly

synonym: articulate, pronounce, say

(1) **enunciate** a new strategy, (2) **enunciate** each word

The doctrine of the country was **enunciated** by its first king.

originate

v. to come into existence in a particular place or situation; to start something in a specific place

synonym: begin, arise, create

(1) **originate** from the country, (2) **originate** a political movement

The flight **originates** in Vancouver.

syrinx

n. the vocal organ of a bird; a primitive wind instrument consisting of several parallel pipes bound together

synonym : panpipes

(1) dogs with a wide **syrinx**, (2) spinal **syrinx**

The shape of a bird's **syrinx** varies greatly depending on the environment in which it lives.

airway

n. the air passage from the nose and throat to the lungs; a designated route followed by airplanes flying from one airport to another

synonym : air passage, air duct, skyway

(1) **airway** blockage, (2) **airway** beacon

When performing lifesaving, the first step is to secure the **airway**.

beak

n. the hard and pointed or curved mouse of a bird

synonym : nib, pecker, snoot

(1) sharp **beak**, (2) a tip of the **beak**

The bird's **beak** evolves according to the type of prey it can take on the area.

interconnect

v. to connect similar things

synonym : interlink, complect, annex

(1) directly **interconnect** with those systems, (2) human activities **interconnect** with the environment

Our system can now **interconnect** with other databases.

songbird

n. a bird with a musical call, such as a blackbird or thrush

synonym : songster

(1) migratory **songbird**, (2) tropical **songbird**

Federal law protects the majority of **songbirds**.

recite

v. to say a poem, piece of literature, etc. aloud from memory,

synonym : repeat, replicate, recount

(1) **recite** a charm, (2) **recite** a long list of the article

He could **recite** all of Shakespeare's works.

factoid

n. something commonly accepted as fact, even though it is probably not true

(1) an attention-grabbing **factoid**, (2) wacky **factoid**

We talked about an interesting **factoid** in today's newspaper.

intrepid

adj. courageous and not afraid of danger or difficulties

synonym: unfearing, courageous, dauntless

(1) **intrepid** personality, (2) **intrepid** travelers

There were still **intrepid** pioneers who planned to start their businesses

captivity

n. the situation in which a person or animal is kept in prison or a space that they cannot escape from

synonym: confinement, detention, imprisonment

(1) escape from **captivity**, (2) animals in **captivity** in the zoo

Pandas rarely breed in **captivity**.

elicit

v. to obtain information or a reaction from someone, usually with difficulty

synonym: bring out, obtain, evoke

(1) **elicit** a confession, (2) **elicit** a solution

Have you **elicited** a response from them yet?

profanity

n. a speech or behavior that expresses of lack of respect for God or holy things

synonym: cuss, expletive, crudeness

(1) give a **profanity**, (2) shout **profanity**

We do not tolerate any **profanity** or abusive language.

rattle

v. to make or cause to make short, successive, sharp, and loud sounds

synonym: jolt, shake, babble

(1) **rattle** along a road, (2) **rattle** and bang at the door

The vast earthquake caused the house to **rattle**.

cuss

v. to say offensive words in anger or annoyance

synonym: swear, curse, blaspheme

(1) **cuss** out an opponent, (2) **cuss** at the lousy service

He speaks excessively and occasionally **cusses**.

astound

v. to surprise or shock someone with wonder very much

synonym: amaze, astonish, surprise

(1) **astound** everyone, (2) **astound** the viewer

The final result was nothing short of **astounding**.

fascination

n. the state of being intensely interested in someone or something, or a powerful attraction

synonym: allure, attraction, charm

(1) rapt in **fascination**, (2) the **fascination** with classical music

I looked at the painting in **fascination**.

poacher

n. a person who catches and kills birds, animals, or fish illegally

(1) crackdown on **poachers**, (2) a suspected **poacher**

An old **poacher** makes the best keeper.

deforestation

n. the act of cutting down or burning trees in a large area

synonym: clear-cutting, desertification

(1) **deforestation** of the tropics, (2) the lowest **deforestation** rate

Large-scale **deforestation** also has a significant impact on marine ecosystems in the area.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1. im_____e animal sounds | <i>v.</i> to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something |
| 2. a tip of the b__k | <i>n.</i> the hard and pointed or curved mouse of a bird |
| 3. animals in ca_____ty in the zoo | <i>n.</i> the situation in which a person or animal is kept in prison or a space that they cannot escape from |
| 4. in_____id travelers | <i>adj.</i> courageous and not afraid of danger or difficulties |
| 5. spinal sy___x | <i>n.</i> the vocal organ of a bird; a primitive wind instrument consisting of several parallel pipes bound together |
| 6. re___e a charm | <i>v.</i> to say a poem, piece of literature, etc. aloud from memory, |
| 7. en_____te a new strategy | <i>v.</i> to say, pronounce, or utter words clearly |
| 8. in_____id personality | <i>adj.</i> courageous and not afraid of danger or difficulties |
| 9. African pa_____et | <i>n.</i> any one of many small to medium-sized species of parrot, usually with a long tail |
| 10. ind_____ize each patient | <i>v.</i> to make something personal or more personal to suit the needs of a particular person, place, etc. |
| 11. irritate the la___x | <i>n.</i> an organ in the top of the throat involved in breathing, producing sound |

ANSWERS: 1. imitate, 2. beak, 3. captivity, 4. intrepid, 5. syrinx, 6. recite, 7. enunciate, 8. intrepid, 9. parakeet, 10. individualize, 11. larynx

- | | |
|--|---|
| 12. artificial wi____pe | <i>n.</i> the tube in the body that carries inhaled air from the throat to the lungs |
| 13. wi____pe inflammation | <i>n.</i> the tube in the body that carries inhaled air from the throat to the lungs |
| 14. a suspected po____r | <i>n.</i> a person who catches and kills birds, animals, or fish illegally |
| 15. shout pr____ty | <i>n.</i> a speech or behavior that expresses of lack of respect for God or holy things |
| 16. el____t a solution | <i>v.</i> to obtain information or a reaction from someone, usually with difficulty |
| 17. give a pr____ty | <i>n.</i> a speech or behavior that expresses of lack of respect for God or holy things |
| 18. migratory so____rd | <i>n.</i> a bird with a musical call, such as a blackbird or thrush |
| 19. re____e with my friend | <i>v.</i> to bring two or more people together again after a period of separation |
| 20. or____te a political movement | <i>v.</i> to come into existence in a particular place or situation; to start something in a specific place |
| 21. the fas____on with classical music | <i>n.</i> the state of being intensely interested in someone or something, or a powerful attraction |
| 22. an attention-grabbing fa____d | <i>n.</i> something commonly accepted as fact, even though it is probably not true |
| 23. vocal mi____y | <i>n.</i> the act or skill of copying the sounds or behavior of a particular person or animal, often to make people laugh |
| 24. a talking pa____t | <i>n.</i> a tropical bird with a curved beak and the ability to mimic sounds, often kept as a pet and trained to copy the human voice |

ANSWERS: 12. windpipe, 13. windpipe, 14. poacher, 15. profanity, 16. elicit, 17. profanity, 18. songbird, 19. reunite, 20. originate, 21. fascination, 22. factoid, 23. mimicry, 24. parrot

25. high-speed ai____w *n.* the flow of air, especially around a moving object such as an aircraft or vehicle
26. en_____te each word *v.* to say, pronounce, or utter words clearly
27. ind_____ize dosages *v.* to make something personal or more personal to suit the needs of a particular person, place, etc.
28. vi_____e with anger *v.* to move or cause anything to move fast and in small increments from side to side
29. or_____te from the country *v.* to come into existence in a particular place or situation; to start something in a specific place
30. wacky fa____d *n.* something commonly accepted as fact, even though it is probably not true
31. un_____y resemblance *adj.* strange or mysterious, often in a way that is unsettling
32. dogs with a wide sy____x *n.* the vocal organ of a bird; a primitive wind instrument consisting of several parallel pipes bound together
33. f__e blows *n.* a small part in an electrical device or machinery that can interrupt the flow of electrical current when it is overloaded; (verb) to become plastic or fluid or liquefied from heat
34. def_____ion of the tropics *n.* the act of cutting down or burning trees in a large area
35. el____t a confession *v.* to obtain information or a reaction from someone, usually with difficulty

ANSWERS: 25. airflow, 26. enunciate, 27. individualize, 28. vibrate, 29. originate, 30. factoid, 31. uncanny, 32. syrinx, 33. fuse, 34. deforestation, 35. elicit

36. narrowing of the la___x *n.* an organ in the top of the throat involved in breathing, producing sound
37. human activities int_____ect with the environment *v.* to connect similar things
38. sharp b__k *n.* the hard and pointed or curved mouse of a bird
39. extinct pa_____et *n.* any one of many small to medium-sized species of parrot, usually with a long tail
40. fine hair on the n__e *n.* the back side of the neck
41. c__s at the lousy service *v.* to say offensive words in anger or annoyance
42. floral mi_____y *n.* the act or skill of copying the sounds or behavior of a particular person or animal, often to make people laugh
43. a con_____us achievement *adj.* visible or observable; likely to draw attention
44. rapt in fas_____on *n.* the state of being intensely interested in someone or something, or a powerful attraction
45. con_____us consumption *adj.* visible or observable; likely to draw attention
46. crackdown on po_____rs *n.* a person who catches and kills birds, animals, or fish illegally
47. c__s out an opponent *v.* to say offensive words in anger or annoyance
48. im_____e painting styles *v.* to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something

ANSWERS: 36. larynx, 37. interconnect, 38. beak, 39. parakeet, 40. nape, 41. cuss, 42. mimicry, 43. conspicuous, 44. fascination, 45. conspicuous, 46. poacher, 47. cuss, 48. imitate

49. directly int_____ect with those systems *v.* to connect similar things
50. ra___e and bang at the door *v.* to make or cause to make short, successive, sharp, and loud sounds
51. repeat like a pa___t *n.* a tropical bird with a curved beak and the ability to mimic sounds, often kept as a pet and trained to copy the human voice
52. tropical so____rd *n.* a bird with a musical call, such as a blackbird or thrush
53. ai___y beacon *n.* the air passage from the nose and throat to the lungs; a designated route followed by airplanes flying from one airport to another
54. re_____e after five years *v.* to bring two or more people together again after a period of separation
55. ai_____w duct *n.* the flow of air, especially around a moving object such as an aircraft or vehicle
56. escape from ca_____ty *n.* the situation in which a person or animal is kept in prison or a space that they cannot escape from
57. f__e with one another *n.* a small part in an electrical device or machinery that can interrupt the flow of electrical current when it is overloaded; (verb) to become plastic or fluid or liquefied from heat
58. n__e massager *n.* the back side of the neck

ANSWERS: 49. interconnect, 50. rattle, 51. parrot, 52. songbird, 53. airway, 54. reunite, 55. airflow, 56. captivity, 57. fuse, 58. nape

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Her golden hair was _____ in China.
adj. visible or observable; likely to draw attention
2. Our schools offer _____ education by excellent teachers.
v. to make something personal or more personal to suit the needs of a particular person, place, etc.
3. There were still _____ pioneers who planned to start their businesses
adj. courageous and not afraid of danger or difficulties
4. We do not tolerate any _____ or abusive language.
n. a speech or behavior that expresses of lack of respect for God or holy things
5. When performing lifesaving, the first step is to secure the _____.
n. the air passage from the nose and throat to the lungs; a designated route followed by airplanes flying from one airport to another
6. An old _____ makes the best keeper.
n. a person who catches and kills birds, animals, or fish illegally
7. Pandas rarely breed in _____.
n. the situation in which a person or animal is kept in prison or a space that they cannot escape from
8. He _____ the modus operandi of the famous phantom thief.
v. to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something

ANSWERS: 1. conspicuous, 2. individualized, 3. intrepid, 4. profanity, 5. airway, 6. poacher, 7. captivity, 8. imitated

9. Have you _____ a response from them yet?
- v.* to obtain information or a reaction from someone, usually with difficulty
10. The bird's _____ evolves according to the type of prey it can take on the area.
- n.* the hard and pointed or curved mouse of a bird
11. The doctrine of the country was _____ by its first king.
- v.* to say, pronounce, or utter words clearly
12. He has a short _____.
- n.* a small part in an electrical device or machinery that can interrupt the flow of electrical current when it is overloaded; (verb) to become plastic or fluid or liquefied from heat
13. The final result was nothing short of _____.
- v.* to surprise or shock someone with wonder very much
14. We had named our pet _____.
- n.* any one of many small to medium-sized species of parrot, usually with a long tail
15. Federal law protects the majority of _____.
- n.* a bird with a musical call, such as a blackbird or thrush
16. During the flight, the wings of the plane _____.
- v.* to move or cause anything to move fast and in small increments from side to side
17. The shape of a bird's _____ varies greatly depending on the environment in which it lives.
- n.* the vocal organ of a bird; a primitive wind instrument consisting of several parallel pipes bound together

ANSWERS: 9. elicited, 10. beak, 11. enunciated, 12. fuse, 13. astounding, 14. parakeets, 15. songbirds, 16. vibrate, 17. syrinx

18. Some insects use _____ to avoid detection by predators.
- n.* the act or skill of copying the sounds or behavior of a particular person or animal, often to make people laugh
19. I looked at the painting in _____.
- n.* the state of being intensely interested in someone or something, or a powerful attraction
20. The band will _____ only for this show.
- v.* to bring two or more people together again after a period of separation
21. He speaks excessively and occasionally _____.
- v.* to say offensive words in anger or annoyance
22. They thoroughly tested the _____ around their latest formula car.
- n.* the flow of air, especially around a moving object such as an aircraft or vehicle
23. Our system can now _____ with other databases.
- v.* to connect similar things
24. A foreign object lodged in the throat or _____ causes choking.
- n.* the tube in the body that carries inhaled air from the throat to the lungs
25. She keeps a _____ in a birdcage as a pet.
- n.* a tropical bird with a curved beak and the ability to mimic sounds, often kept as a pet and trained to copy the human voice
26. Smoking significantly increases the risk of _____ cancer.
- n.* an organ in the top of the throat involved in breathing, producing sound

ANSWERS: 18. mimicry, 19. fascination, 20. reunite, 21. cusses, 22. airflow, 23. interconnect, 24. windpipe, 25. parrot, 26. larynx

27. She has an _____ sense of who is telling a lie.

adj. strange or mysterious, often in a way that is unsettling

28. She kissed the _____ of his neck.

n. the back side of the neck

29. The flight _____ in Vancouver.

v. to come into existence in a particular place or situation; to start something in a specific place

30. Large-scale _____ also has a significant impact on marine ecosystems in the area.

n. the act of cutting down or burning trees in a large area

31. The vast earthquake caused the house to _____.

v. to make or cause to make short, successive, sharp, and loud sounds

32. He could _____ all of Shakespeare's works.

v. to say a poem, piece of literature, etc. aloud from memory,

33. We talked about an interesting _____ in today's newspaper.

n. something commonly accepted as fact, even though it is probably not true

ANSWERS: 27. uncanny, 28. nape, 29. originates, 30. deforestation, 31. rattle, 32. recite, 33. factoid